KEYBOARD WITH IMPROVED FUNCTION AND EDITING SECTIONS

ABSTRACT

A keyboard having an improved function key section and an improved editing section. A row of keys is located behind the alphanumeric section. The row of keys includes individual predefined command keys. The groupings of the predefined command keys may be made based on the functionality of the keys, their use on common applications or programs, and/or other by other grouping techniques. Further, the keys within each group may be ordered based on chronological order of use, frequency of use, or by a correlation to a graphical toolbar. Each of at least two adjacent groupings of keys behind the alphanumeric region consists of exactly three keys, and each of at least three adjacent key groupings in the entire row consists of exactly three keys. The keys are each capable of functioning as predetermined command keys in a first mode and standard function keys in a second mode. A Function Lock key may be used to convert these keys from their use in one mode as their predefined command keys to another mode where they become standard function keys. These keys are preferably primarily labeled as their command keys and secondarily labeled as standard function keys. The editing section includes a first key cluster having a plurality of keys forming a two dimensional array of cells. At least one key occupies a single cell and a Delete key occupies at least two cells. A key cluster is located behind and spaced from the editing section, and consists of an Undo key and a Redo key.

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